

**EDUCATION COMMITTEE
MINUTES
MAY 18, 2001**

Members Present:

Doug DeSanti, Jerry Stein, Dr. Charles Finch, Donald Uhles, Dr. Kay Lewis, Bill White, and Marilyn Price

Members Absent:

Patricia Ellis, Dr. John Gallagher, Barbara Glickman-Williams, Bob Lashua, and Dr. Selma Wilf

Guests Present:

Janine Anderson, Chris Black, Becky Hicks, Kevin Kelley, Jim Morgan, Brian Smith, Bert Thomas, and Mark Venuti

BEMS Staff Present:

Larry Bednarek, Don Decker, Victor Dominguez, Dr. Garth Gemar, Larry Lorenzen, Dona Markley, Karen Nelson, and Susan Nicolas

I. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Education Committee was called to order at 9:05 a.m. by Dr. Kay Lewis. A quorum was present.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

After four corrections to the February 23, 2001 meeting minutes, a motion was made by Doug DeSanti and seconded by Bill White to approve the February 23 meeting minutes. Motion carried.

III. DHS REPORT/INFORMATION

Victor Dominguez informed the Committee that Larry Bednarek has transferred to the BEMS Tucson Office. Larry's position here in Phoenix is being filled by Howard Schwartz who will start on Monday, May 21.

IV. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Dr. Kay Lewis announced that Steve Hise has left the Bureau and Ed Armijo has been appointed Acting Bureau Chief.

V. MEMBERS' REPORTS

None to report.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

A. Attendance Verification in EMT Courses

Doug DeSanti stated that this issue has already been covered. No action by the Committee.

B. An English Course: Pre-req or Front Loaded

Doug DeSanti motioned and Bill White seconded that an English course be either a pre-req, front loaded or embedded at the discretion and choice of the training program. Motion carried.

C. Refresher Curriculum for Paramedics

Doug DeSanti stated that the Legislature passed a Bill that allows an out of state Paramedic who has a current National Registry certification to automatically get a temporary (6-month) state certification. To get permanent certification, they must complete a refresher course and pass a test within the 6-month period. Dr. Garth Gemar passed out a copy of that Bill to clarify any questions the Committee had. A discussion ensued. There was a motion by Doug DeSanti, seconded by Jerry Stein, that when a Paramedic goes through an ALS refresher curriculum, he or she must pass both a written and a skills test.

Motion carried and forwarded to EMS Council.

D. Epinephrine for Cardiac Use by Intermediates

Dr. Gemar presented the issue and since it was determined that this is covered in the new curriculum, no action was required by the Committee.

E. Tox Medic Curriculum

Curriculum needs no changes. No action by the Committee.

F. New EMT-P Curriculum

Motion by Doug DeSanti with a second by Chief Marilyn Price to ratify the new 1998 USDOT EMT-P curriculum and forward to the Rules Committee and EMS Council.

Motion carried.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. LMA and/or Combitube for EMT-Basics

After a correction to the Combitube Curriculum, a motion was made by Bill White, seconded by Chief Marilyn Price, to allow the Combitube Curriculum be taught as a special skills course to EMT-Basics.

Motion carried and forwarded to EMS Council and MDC.

B. EMT-I Curriculum (New)

1. Initial

Doug DeSanti went over the handout titled "Task Force: EMT-I Curriculum Review" and asked for any comments/questions on the curriculum. On page 3, "Special Considerations," under "Pediatrics," Dr. Gemar requested four more hours be added to the recommended hours and the Committee agreed. Jerry Stein motioned, seconded by Bill White, to accept pages 1 - 4 of EMT-I

Curriculum pending hours checked for any math errors by the Bureau.

Motion passed and forwarded to EMS Council and MDC
(Yes - 6, No - 1, Abstentions - 0).

2. AZ Skills: Sternal IO, Surgical Crich and Needle Thoracostomy

Motion by Jerry Stein, seconded by Bill White, to add sternal IO, surgical crich and needle thoracostomy to the new EMT-I Curriculum.

Motion passed and forwarded to EMS Council and MDC.

NOTE: Add to Education Committee's Agenda for September meeting
"New EMT-I to Paramedic Curriculum."

To answer a question about transitioning the EMT-Is and Paramedics trained under the old curriculum to the new curriculum, Victor Dominguez answered that the Bureau will not force the new curriculum on them but that they will gradually learn the new curriculum when they take required continued education classes. It was then asked when would the old curriculum be officially dropped and when it was determined that there was no specific date set yet, Dr. Lewis asked Victor to determine when that date would be and let the Committee know at the September meeting.

ACTION: Victor to report to the Education Committee Agenda in September.

3. Refresher/transition EMT-I

This item was tabled until the September meeting so the issues can be researched and clarified.

4. Reciprocity Issues EMT-P

This item had already been covered, no action by the Committee.

C. Status of Past Rules Changes Affecting Training

Dona Markley stated that the new rules should be in effect by 2002.

D. Authorization to Train and Utilize Pericardiocentesis for Paramedics

Dr. Gemar presented the issue and it was determined that no action was required by the Committee.

E. Revised Curriculum on Sternal I/O

Janine Anderson presented the item. She distributed a revised handout to replace the one in the packet because of an omission in the old attachment. She then went over the handout to see if there were any corrections or additions. Dr. Finch brought out that they have been using the same procedure here in Maricopa County and have had no problems as of yet. After making several corrections to the document, a motion was

presented by Jerry Stein and seconded by Dr. Finch to accept the revision to the curriculum.

Motion carried and moved forward to EMS Council and MDC.

F. Curriculum on the Use of Nalmefene

Dr. Gemar talked about the issue. He started by handing out a document titled "Bureau of Emergency Medical Services Treatment Protocol Guidance Document for Paramedics, March 2001." A discussion ensued and Bill White requested that this procedure also be for Intermediates and that it state so in the title and the body of the document. When this was agreed upon by the Committee, Mr. White then motioned with a second by Doug DeSanti that this procedure be accepted by the Committee.
Motion carried.

G. Patient Assisted Medication: Nitroglycerin Spray for EMT-Basics

A motion was made by Doug DeSanti, seconded by Marilyn Price, that if a patient has nitroglycerin spray and is authorized to take it, an EMT-Basic be allowed to administer the spray to the patient.
Motion carried and forwarded to MDC and EMSC.

H. Discussion and Action on Use of Epinephrine in SVN's for Pediatric Patients

It was determined that EMT-Basics do not have the necessary requisite knowledge and skills to do this procedure so this procedure will only apply to Intermediates and Paramedics. No action by the Committee.

I. EMT-Basic Refresher Training

Captain Bert Thomas of the Tucson Fire Department gave a presentation on this topic. The Tucson Fire Department would like to start a pilot project of doing a complete EMT-Basic refresher course using computer based instruction. The EMTs would get their lessons via computers in the fire station instead of instructors in a traditional classroom setting. After completing a section of lessons, the EMTs would be required to pass a written test and a practical test (if required by the lessons they just took). At the end of the refresher training course, they would be required to pass a final written and practical test. After his presentation, a discussion ensued to clarify items and questions of the pilot program. Finally, Dr. Lewis asked Captain Thomas to clarify and document some additional items and return with a new package at the September meeting of the Education Committee, which he agreed to do. Chief Marilyn Price suggested that the first refresher course be in a classroom style and if accepted by the Education Committee and the EMS Council, subsequent refresher classes could be in computer form. No action by the Committee.

J. Review and Approval of Education Committee's Bylaws

This item tabled until next meeting. Committee members were asked to review for comments, suggestions. This will be an action item in September.

VIII. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Mark Venuti brought out the fact that under New Business the Committee voted to have a curriculum set up on Combitube as a "Special Skills" class versus having it set up as a protocol, which is run by a completely different set of rules. Dr. Lewis said this was done as a process of expediency because if set up as a protocol then rules would have to be amended which is a more drawn out process.

IX. NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting of the Education Committee is scheduled for September 28, 2001, at 9:00 a.m.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Doug DeSanti motioned for adjournment with a second by Jerry Stein. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 12:17 p.m.

Approved by Education Committee on 9/18/01